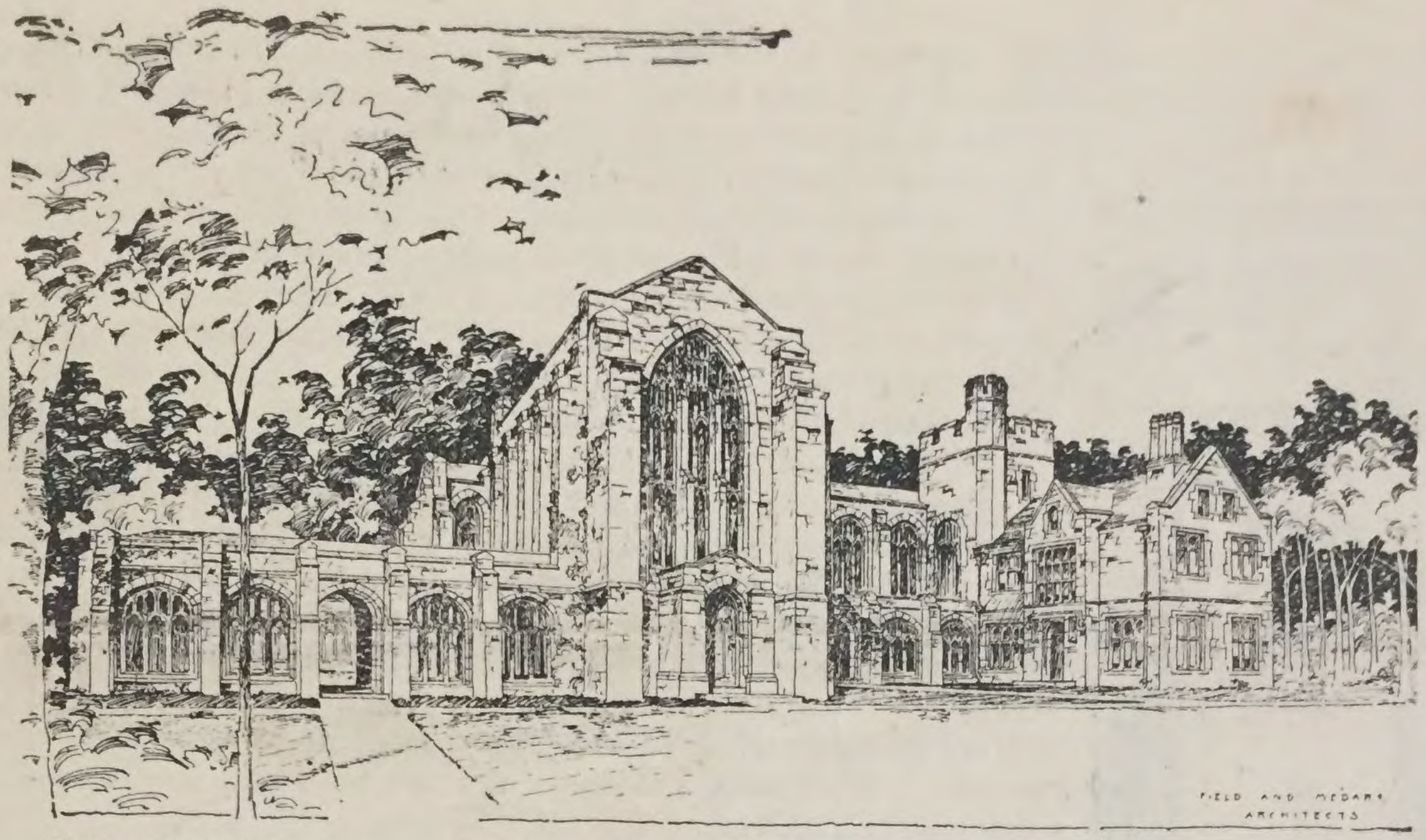


Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Rectory or Library

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.

The Patriots' Hall,

Valley Forge.

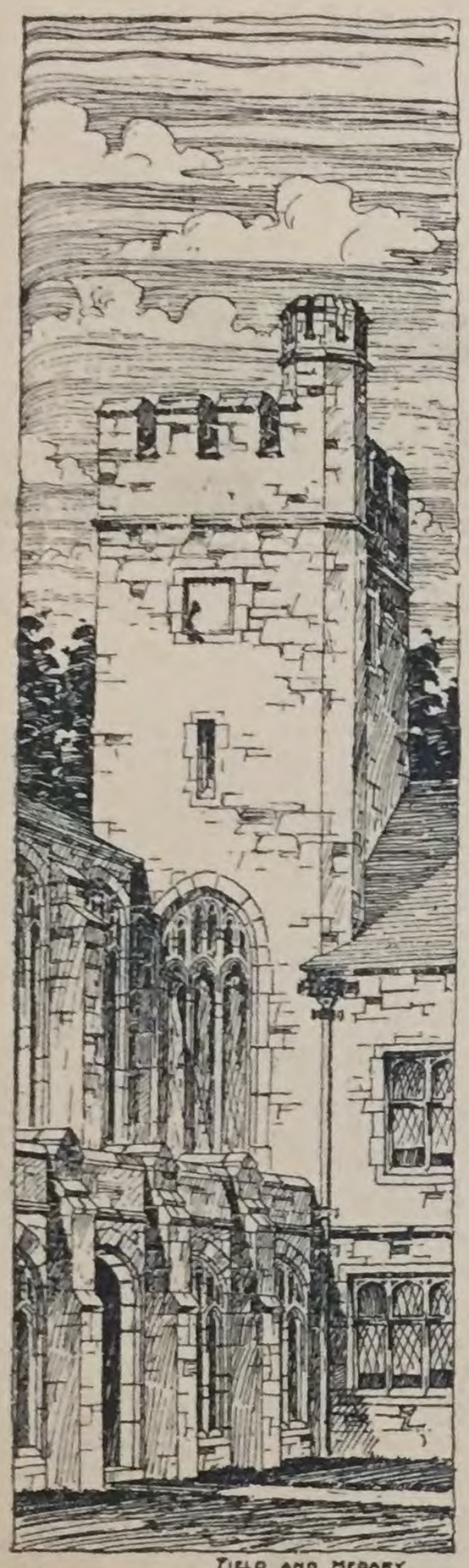
Valley Forge holds a unique place in the history of our Country and in the affection and reverence of American patriots. Every year the number of patriotic pilgrims has increased, until it now exceeds 100,000 annually. These find pleasure in the beautiful park created by the State of Pennsylvania through the Valley Forge Park Commission. They find inspiration in the hills and valleys consecrated by the struggle of Washington and his starving troops. Already a number of patriotic and historical societies have held important meetings at Valley Forge, availing themselves of the accommodations freely offered by the Washington Memorial Chapel. For such gatherings more room is needed.

THE PATRIOTS' HALL.

To meet the needs of the visiting public the Patriots' Hall has been planned and partly built.

The Patriots' Hall is connected with the Washington Memorial Chapel, and will contain on the first floor the vestry and choir rooms, etc., for the use of the clergy and choirs of the Chapel. The public rooms will be a banquet hall and library. The former will be connect-

ed with ample kitchens on the floor below, and will be at the service of such societies as choose to spend a day at Valley Forge. The library will afford a suitable place for historical research, as an effort will be made to place upon its shelves such books as deal with the history of our Country, and especially with the War of the Revolution and the winter at Valley Forge. It is hoped that a separate building can be erected for the Washington Memorial Library.



"Porch of the Allies, Patriots' Hall, Tower, Rectory or Library."

On the second floor there will be a hall arranged to accommodate several hundred people. Its windows will be memorials of those whose patriotism was worthy of emulation. Around its walls will be the cases for a collection of objects illustrative of American history.

The approach to the Hall will be under the "Porch of the Allies," each bay of which will be a memorial of those, like Lafayette and Steuben, who came across the seas to aid the American cause. The Tower between the Patriots' Hall and Rectory will give access to the assembly room and museum on the second floor, and will serve as an observatory and bell tower. From its height there will be a superb view of the encampment and of the surrounding country. Eventually a chime of thirteen bells will send its message of peace far and wide.

It is estimated that $50,000 will be required to complete and furnish the Patriots' Hall. A part of this fund is already pledged by generous and patriotic members of the Valley Forge Memorial Association, who years ago contributed the money with which Washington's Headquarters was purchased and so preserved to the Nation. They believe that the money received from the sale of the Headquarters to the State of Pennsylvania should still be kept at Valley Forge. To this fund much must be added before the Patriots' Hall can be completed. It is hoped that there will be such a prompt and generous response to this appeal that the entire building may be erected in the near future.

FOUNDERS' CERTIFICATES.

One of the methods taken to secure this sum is to issue Founders' Certificates to all who contribute one dollar or more toward the erection of the Patriots' Hall. Every contributor's name is recorded in the "Book of the Founders" and each receives one of the certificates.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE.

The Patriots' Hall.

During the summer of 1908 the first room of the Patriots' Hall was built, with a kitchen and dining room in the basement below it. It is fireproof and for the present is used for the Museum and Library. This room is already too small for the proper exhibition of the treasures collected. Funds are now being raised for the Washington Room, the next to be built.

The Museum of American History.

The Museum was opened on Washington's Birthday, 1909, and has proved one of the most attractive features of Valley Forge. Every week relics have been added until the present quarters are not sufficient. The Museum contains:

"The Rev. Jesse Y. Burk Collection" of Indian relics.

"The Mary Regina Brice Collection" of historical documents.
"The Lilla S. Pechin Colection" of Stamps.
"The William S. Green and William L. Fox Collection" of Indian relics.
"The Spear Collection" of Spanish-American War relics.

Among the documents is the cheque for $120,000 paid to Lafayette for his services in the Revolution. There is a good collection of Washingtoniana and an interesting Civil War collection.

Washington's Marquee.

Undoubtedly the object of greatest interest at Valley Forge is the tent used by Washington throughout the War of the Revolution. It was his first Valley Forge Headquarters. Beneath its canvas many of his most important letters and orders were written, and in it he found rest in sleep and strength in prayer.

It is the tabernacle of our American Moses.

The tent was purchased from Miss Mary Custis Lee for $5000, which money will be given by her to charity. The tent has been set up, but should be placed in a special room. This will cost $2500.

Miss Frances B. Lovell has loaned the Washington Headquarters Flag, the standard of the Commander in Chief, which was used with the Marquee.

The Washington Memorial Library.

Additions are being made to the books in the Library, including Authors' presentation copies. All books will have in them the Library book-plate, a reproduction of Washington's, and the name of the donor.

The Porch of the Allies.

The DeKalb and Steuben Bays in the "Porch of the Allies" have been promised by the National German-American Alliance and will be built as soon as the money is raised. Mr. Herman Ridder, proprietor of the New York Staats-Zeitung is the Chairman of the Committee to erect the Bays.

WHAT IS NEEDED AT VALLEY FORGE.

1. Money, with which to build and equip the Patriots' Hall, and especially $2500 for the room for Washington's Marquee.
2. Relics, properly certified, for the Valley Forge Museum.

These may illustrate any period of American history, as the Museum is not limited to the period of the Revolution.

3. Books, for the Washington Memorial Library.
4. Maps of all parts of America.
5. Autograph letters of soldiers, statesmen, artists, poets, etc.
6. Paintings and engravings, including portraits and scenes in American history, or pictures of famous places.
7. Data in regard to the lives of the men who served at Valley Forge.

Attention is called to the effort which is being made by the Rev. Mr. Burk to gather information in regard to the men who composed Washington's army at Valley Forge, that here may be kept a permanent record of their lives and achievements, and lists of their descendants. It is hoped that in this way there may be preserved those traditions of the Camp which have been the heritage of the families of the patriots, but which should be shared with the Nation.

All relics, books, etc., should be sent to the Rev. W. Herbert Burk, All Saints' Rectory, Norristown, Pa., as well as all communications. Please send with the gift the full name and address of the donor. All gifts will be duly acknowledged in the "Washington Chapel

Chronicle," a monthly paper published in the aid of this work and to arouse interest in Valley Forge. Subscriptions to the Chronicle, 25 cents a year, should be sent to Mrs. Robert Wood, Valley Forge, Pa.

All cheques should be sent to the treasurer, Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Bridgeport, Pa., or to the Rev. W. Herbert Burk, All Saints' Rectory, Norristown, Pa.

MEMORIALS.

There can be no better place for a memorial of an American patriot than Valley Forge. The Washington Memorial Chapel and the Patriots' Hall have been planned for such memorials, which range in cost from the choir and sanctuary of the Chapel, the Tower, or a Bay in the "Cloister of the Colonies," to a window in the Chapel or Hall, one of the "Pews of the "Patriots," or a tablet.

"The Cloister of the Colonies."

The New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland and Massachusetts Bays have been built in this unique memorial of patriotism. All the Colonies should be represented.

"The Pews of the Patriots."

All these handsome memorials have been taken.

"The Porch of the Allies."

The Lafayette Bay and two others are available for memorials.

"The Thanksgiving Tower."

This triumphal Tower will be one of the noblest monuments at Valley Forge and it should be built by some American or society grateful for the liberties enjoyed through the sacrifices of others.

"The Steps of Fame."

The Hall and bell floor will be reached by a memorial stairway of 100 steps of granite, each bearing a bronze tablet commemorating some patriot who has added to the glory of the Nation in peace or war.

"The Peace Chime."

Thirteen bells will form the chime, each representing a Colony, and commemorating one or more of its citizens. The memorial inscription will be cast in the bell.

NOTE.—All memorials are assigned in the order in which applications are received by the Rev. W. Herbert Burk. Reservations may be made for a limited time pending a decision.

"Patrons and Patronesses."

To maintain the Valley Forge Mission of American History an Endowment Fund has been begun with the following Perpetual Patrons, who have paid $200 each:

Miss Sarah R. Chew, New Jersey.

Mrs. Ann Hunter Wood (Mrs. Alan Wood). In memoriam. Pennsylvania.

The Life Patrons, those who have paid $50 each, are:

Mrs. Erastus Gaylord Putnam, New Jersey.

Mr. William Henry Pearson, Massachusetts.

American patroits are urged to become patrons and patronesses of this National Museum.